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WHERE CO-OPERATION WINS.

For a long time past co-operative societies in Great Britain have commanded the attention of economists and of sociologists by reason of the rapidity of their growth, the increasing magnitude of business done and the almost uniform success attained by them year after year. The most sanguine hopes of the founders of the first associations of the kind have been more than fulfilled, and reports submitted at the recent annual congress of the co-operative union show that the movement has by no means reached its limit, but is still going forward with the same extraordinary vigor that marked its early stages, says the Call.

In his review of the progress achieved by the various organizations composing the union the president said the growth of the movement as a whole amounted "almost to a social miracle." Even the most adverse conditions of industry and of politics have never checked the steady progress of the societies. Statistics were given showing that the business of the last fiscal year, for which full returns were in, reached a total of 89,216,223 pounds sterling. It was added that the societies are today transacting a far larger yearly turnover than the whole export trade of Great Britain amounted to when the movement commenced. They had now 2,116,127 members registered in 1,701 societies, and probably each member represented in most cases a family.

A notable feature of the work of the societies is the amount of money devoted annually to education and to charity. It appears that the founders of the original associations aimed at mutual helpfulness in every direction, and from the first adopted rules devoting 2 1/2 per cent of all profits to educational and charitable uses. These rules have been maintained unbroken, and as a consequence the union devoted last year 78,499 pounds sterling to education and 45,649 pounds sterling to charity. At the present time there are about 800 centers where co-operative educational funds are being administered by committees numbering altogether about 10,000 persons.

Concerning the program of future work the president said: "With all that had been done the co-operators were only at the beginning of their work. They had to house their members in places worthy of the name of home; to carry co-operation to the reach of the very poorest; to adapt it to the needs of depressed agriculture; to bring the rural laborer back to hope; to conquer the heart of London, where only one in 250 people were co-operators; to introduce art into their work; to wipe out all stain of corruption of their employes by their tempters; to reverse the policy which shut out capital from flowing into their movement with full measure; to get labor back to the land, and to give their people city gardens and garden cities. The admirable work of their women's guilds had to be further developed, and the links which bound them to co-operators in other lands had to be strengthened."

That is certainly an ambitious platform, but the great successes of the past justify the hopes of those who expect greater things in the future. Certainly there is nothing impracticable in the plans outlined, and almost the whole program may be carried out in a comparatively few years by the force which seems to be inherent in earnest co-operative endeavor.

THOROUGH STEAMBOAT INSPECTION.

Secretary Cortelyou's order that every passenger-carrying steamboat in the harbor of New York shall be immediately reinspected by the "very best men in the service" is the most practical and hopeful result of the Slocum disaster yet accomplished, says the Brooklyn Standard Union. If his directions are faithfully obeyed by Supervising Inspector General Uhler and his subordinates the effects will be revolutionary and far-reaching, for the methods heretofore in vogue, as described by Inspector Lundberg at the coroner's inquest, have been absurdly inadequate. A realistic representation of such an "inspection" would alone make any comic opera a success. Mr. Cortelyou, who signalizes his departure from the department of commerce and labor by this

radical and decisive action, very sensibly directs that no man who made the inspection of any particular boat earlier in the season shall make the reinspection now, and unless there should be collusion between the various inspectors and a disposition manifested to let each other "down easy" it is reasonable to expect that the inspection will this time be thorough and honest. Certainly it ought to be; and in the shadow of the appalling catastrophe brought about by previous laxity or corruption, and with a vigilant press watching the inspectors and analyzing their reports, it probably will be. The laws governing official steamboat inspection are explicit and comprehensive, and no intelligent, competent inspector can be in the least doubtful as to what his duties are. Mr. Cortelyou's successor will doubtless see to it that his subordinates shall in their inspections, else the steamboat companies might as well go out of business. If necessary, every passenger-carrying vessel in the harbor should be refitted with new, sound, up-to-date fire hose, water pipes and life-preservers. A repetition of the Slocum horror must be made impossible.

It is also well that the United States grand jury takes up the work of investigation and prosecution. There is no thirst for mere vengeance—that is not the American way—but if any of the men impeached by the coroner's jury shall be found by the grand jury to be really guilty of criminal negligence or other misconduct as defined by the revised statutes, indictments should be impartially framed and the accused quickly put upon their defense. For the sake of making steamboat traveling reasonably safe in the future, the guilty must be punished, and adequate punishment can only be meted out in the federal courts.

THE SUCCESS OF REPUBLICANISM.

The address of Secretary Shaw at the semi-centennial celebration of the founding of the republican party will prove interesting reading, especially in view of the mild manner in which Mr. Shaw states the political situation from the viewpoint of a republican. He attributes the phenomenal success of the party to the opportune assistance of democrats, who deserted their party at critical times and made republican success possible.

Only three times in the past 50 years have the democrats carried the country—once, in 1888, their plurality of the popular vote did not suffice to elect their candidate. This showing has indeed been a most striking one, especially in a nation which allows such great latitude to its people. At times the vote was close, it is true, but the republicans have been generally successful, and doubtless would have enjoyed overwhelming victory were it not that the negro question keeps the south solidly in the ranks of the democracy.

The continued support which the voters of the country have given to the republican party is due to one primary cause—the promulgation of principles satisfactory to the people. The percentage of men who will vote against their own interests is decidedly small. The republicans have been the best platform-makers, and success has come to them.

Eight years ago, when times were undeniably hard in this country, the democrats took up with the free silver proposal. The conditions then existing afforded unparalleled opportunity for appeal to the cupidity of voters. Bryan was defeated, for the sole reason that the majority of the voters of the nation stuck to the best platform. The free silver agitation was attended with beneficial effects, for it increased the volume of currency and made times better, but it was not one upon which a great party could hope for success.

The independent element in this nation controls elections. It votes as its conscience dictates, and therefore is a safeguard against danger. This element has been supporting the republican party because the republicans have voiced sentiments agreeable to it. By its own virtues the party has maintained its supremacy.

At Seattle a negress celebrated the glorious Fourth by shooting off an unloaded revolver. She sent a bullet through the breast of a white woman and the latter was instantly killed. Had the "accident" occurred at any other time the negress would be held for manslaughter, perhaps on the graver charge; but it happened on the Fourth of July, and, instead of being branded a murderess, she is pronounced a patriot. The case illustrates to a nicety the contention of The Astorian that our municipal laws should be so framed as to reduce the possibility of such terrible calamities. Here in Astoria, for instance, the man who discharges a gun within the limits of the city at any other time than the Fourth is guilty of violation of the law, yet on the Fourth he may go up and down the principal streets—thoroughfares packed densely with women and children—and fire off the gun to his heart's content. What we call patriotism excuses on the Fourth what would be a crime on any other day. If there is any logic in the situation we have failed miserably to discover it.

If Paisuli ever goes out of the brigand business there are several firms in this country to whom the service of a man of iron-bound, copper-bottomed nerve would be valuable.

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PRETTY FACE WON HIM.

Eastern Capitalist Falls in Love With Portland Damsel.

Portland Journal: There has been much excitement among the 40 or more members of the Ladies' annex of the Multnomah Athletic Club for three weeks past, excitement that has resulted in the officers of the annex going into executive session and deciding that the cause of the discussion was a secret that should be kept. This matter was kept secret three weeks. Then it leaked out.

In the women's edition of the Journal published on May 4, there appeared a half page picture of a group of members of the Ladies' Annex of the Multnomah Athletic Club. A copy of the paper fell into the hands of a wealthy manufacturer of Grand Rapids, Mich., whose attention was particularly attracted to one member of the group. She was a strikingly pretty girl of athletic build and of a type that is seldom developed outside the far western states. To say that the Michigan man was interested would scarcely express his feelings. After gazing upon and admiring the likeness, he tossed the paper away. He could not, however, dismiss the subject from his mind. He recovered the paper, took another long look at the picture and again threw it away. Then he picked it up once more and arrived at a desperate conclusion. He would ascertain the name and address of this young woman.

So he cut out the picture and wrote a letter, appealing for the desired information, sent it to the women's committee of the Multnomah Athletic Club.

The officers of the ladies' annex looked up the Grand Rapids manufacturer. They appointed a committee to find out who this man was who was so deeply interested in one of their favorite members.

One of this committee chanced to know all about Grand Rapids, and she conducted the direct correspondence between the club and her friends in Grand Rapids before the name of the young woman should be given. In the course of two weeks the ladies' annex had become convinced that the bold man of Grand Rapids was single, of excellent family, a member of a firm manufacturing one of the best known carpet sweepers in the world and then, without the consent of the young woman, they sent her name.

Miss Mildred Raab of Burnside street near Fourteenth, is the young woman whose picture had traveled all the way to Michigan in the woman's edition of the Journal.

Since then Miss Raab has naturally been an object of interest to every woman of the annex, and in the privacy of the club she now goes by the name of "Michigan."

To the questions, "Are we all to be at the wedding?" or "Has he proposed, Michigan?" or "How many letters have you received, Michigan?" she is non-committal.

There is grave doubt at the club about any of the letters of the stricken man in Grand Rapids having been answered. Miss Raab herself is the only one who can throw any light on this, and she is preserving a discreet silence.

Miss Raab, in the group photograph, is on one of the large granite railings leading to the club. Her likeness came out wonderfully clear. In the first letter the Grand Rapids man cut out girl and granite block, fastened the picture to his letter and sent it, with the cleverly worded note asking concerning the original of the likeness.

Among all of the members of the women's annex none is more popular or better liked than Miss Raab. She is pretty, a brunette, and is one of the wittiest members of the club. Her family has lived in Portland many years. She was born here, and in society she is a member of the best local "set." In the athletic club she has long been known among the women as one of their best swimmers and fencers. In addition to the club and society she is a devoted church worker.

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TIME TABLE T. J. POTTER

DATE	Leave PORTLAND	P. M. Arrive Astoria	P. M. Leave Astoria	P. M. Arrive Duane Dock	Leave Duane Dock P. M.	Arrive Astoria P. M.	Leave Astoria P. M.	Arrive Portland A. M.
Tues. July 5	9:00 am	3:00	3:00	4:15	7:30	8:45	8:45	3:45
Wed. " 6	9:00 am	3:00	3:00	4:15	8:00	9:15	9:15	4:15
Thurs. " 7	9:00 am	3:00	3:00	4:15	8:00	9:15	9:15	4:15
Friday " 8	9:45 am	3:45	3:45	5:00	8:00	9:15	9:15	4:15
Sat. " 9	1:00 pm	7:00	7:00	8:15
Sun. " 10	8:00	9:15	9:15	4:15

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